



# PUBLIC NOTICE

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DA No. 20-660

Report No. SCL-00270

Wednesday June 24, 2020

## Actions Taken Under Cable Landing License Act

### Section 1.767(a) Cable Landing Licenses, Modifications, and Assignments or Transfers of Control of Interests in Cable Landing Licenses (47 C.F.R. § 1.767(a))

By the Chief, Telecommunications and Analysis Division, International Bureau:

Pursuant to An Act Relating to the Landing and Operation of Submarine Cables in the United States, 47 U.S.C. §§ 34-39 (Cable Landing License Act), Executive Order No. 10530, Exec. Ord. No. 10530 reprinted as amended in 3 U.S.C. § 301, and section 1.767 of the Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. § 1.767, the following applications ARE GRANTED. These grants of authority are taken under section 0.261 of the Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. § 0.261. Petitions for reconsideration under section 1.106 or applications for review under section 1.115 of the Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. §§ 1.106, 1.115, may be filed within 30 days of the date of this public notice.

These applications have been coordinated with the Department of State and other Executive Branch agencies pursuant to section 1.767(b) of the Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. § 1.767(b), and consistent with procedures established with the Department of State. See Review of Commission Consideration of Applications under the Cable Landing License Act, IB Docket No. 00-106, Report and Order, 16 FCC Rcd 22167, 22192-93, paras. 51-52 (2001) (Submarine Cable Landing License Report and Order); Streamlined Procedures for Executive Branch Review of Submarine Cable Landing License Requests, State Department Media Note (Revised) (rel. Dec. 20, 2001) available at <http://2001-2009.state.gov/r/pa/prs/ps/2001/6951.htm>.

This public notice serves as each cable landing licensee's Cable Landing License, or modification thereto, pursuant to the Cable Landing License Act and sections 1.767 and 1.768 of the Commission's rules. Cable landing licensees should review carefully the terms and conditions of their licenses. Failure to comply with these terms and conditions or relevant Commission rules and policies could result in fines or forfeitures.

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**SCL-ASG-20200430-00018**

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Aqua Comms (Americas) Inc.

Assignment

Grant of Authority

Date of Action: 06/23/2020

**Current Licensee:** America Europe Connect Licenses Limited**FROM:** America Europe Connect Licenses Limited**TO:** Aqua Comms (Americas) Inc.

Notification filed April 30, 2020, of the pro forma assignment of the cable landing license for the America Europe Connect-1 (AEC-1, formerly AEConnect) submarine cable system, SCL-LIC-20140206-00002, from America Europe Connect Licenses Limited (AECL) to Aqua Comms (Americas) Inc. (Aqua Comms Americas), effective March 31, 2020. The AEC-1 cable network connects the United States, Iceland and Ireland.

Pursuant to a Business Contribution Agreement, dated April 17, 2020 and effective retroactive to March 31, 2020, Aqua Comms Americas took ownership of the U.S. territorial waters assets of AEC-1, for which AECL was previously licensed. Aqua Comms Americas and AECL are both indirect wholly owned subsidiaries of Aqua Comms Designated Activity Company (Aqua Comms DAC) and are ultimately owned and controlled by the Bake Trust, a Jersey company whose economic settlor is Mr. Christopher Paul Bake, a Netherlands citizen.

In a parallel transaction between Aqua Ventures International FZE (AVI) and Aqua Ventures Limited (Aqua Ventures), AVI transferred its shareholding in Aqua Comms DAC, an Irish company, to Aqua Ventures, a Jersey company. As a result, the Bake Trust now holds its interest in Aqua Comms DAC through Aqua Ventures, rather than AVI.

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**SCL-ASG-20200514-00019**

E

Hawaiian Telcom, Inc.

Assignment

Grant of Authority

Date of Action: 06/23/2020

**Current Licensee:** Hawaiian Telcom Services Company, Inc.**FROM:** Hawaiian Telcom Services Company, Inc.**TO:** Hawaiian Telcom, Inc.

Notification filed May 14, 2020 of the pro forma assignment of certain interests held by Hawaiian Telcom Services Company, Inc. (HTSC) in the Hawaii Island Fiber Network (HIFN) submarine cable system, SCL-LIC-19950627-00024 and SCL-MOD-20131114-00012, to Hawaiian Telcom, Inc. (HTI), effective December 1, 2016. Applicants filed a supplemental letter clarifying details of the notification on June 18, 2020.

The HIFN cable system is a common carrier cable that connects seven stations in the Hawaiian islands. The interest of Level 3 Telecom of Hawaii, LP in the HIFN cable system was not affected by this pro forma assignment.

HTI and HTSC are both wholly owned by Hawaiian Telcom Communications, Inc., which is an indirect wholly owned subsidiary of Cincinnati Bell, Inc. In 2015, HTSC became a licensee of the HIFN cable system as a result of then-licensee (and HTSC affiliate) Wavecom Solutions Corporation's (Wavecom) assignment to HTSC of ownership of two of the seven HIFN cable landing stations (the Kawaihae, HI and Makaha, HI stations). See Actions Taken Under Cable Landing License Act, SCL-ASG-20150512-00012, Public Notice, 30 FCC Rcd 10693 (IB 2015). In 2016, Wavecom notified the Commission that it assigned its interest in the HIFN license (which did not include the Kawaihae, HI and Makaha, HI stations, to its direct parent HTI. See Actions Taken Under Cable Landing License Act, SCL-ASG-20161222-00027, Public Notice, 32 FCC Rcd 772 (IB 2017). HTI and HTSC now state that the 2016 pro forma notification, SCL-ASG-20161222-00027, should have included the assignment of the Makaha station and partial assignment of the Kawaihae station to HTI as well. Applicants clarify that HTI owns and operates the building and equipment at the Makaha station and that HTI owns the equipment at the Kawaihae station, in a building that HTSC owns. HTSC remains a licensee on the HIFN cable due to its ownership of the Kawaihae station building.

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**SCL-ASG-20200601-00022**

E

Verizon Business Global LLC dba Verizon Business

Assignment

Grant of Authority

Date of Action: 06/23/2020

**Current Licensee:** MCI Communications Corporation**FROM:** MCI Communications Corporation**TO:** Verizon Business Global LLC dba Verizon Business

Application filed for consent to the pro forma assignment of the approximate 7.35 percent interest held by MCI Communications Corporation (MCIC) in the MAYA-1 submarine cable, SCL-LIC-19990325-00006, SCL-MOD-20110928-00028, from MCIC to Verizon Business Global LLC (Verizon Business). MAYA-1 connects the United States, the Cayman Islands, Colombia, Costa Rica, Honduras, Mexico and Panama. The transaction is in connection with an internal restructuring involving certain direct and indirect subsidiaries of Verizon Communications Inc. (Verizon) scheduled to occur on or about June 30, 2020. This transaction does not affect the interests held by other licensees in MAYA-1. As part of the restructuring, MCIC will be merged into its immediate parent company, Verizon Business. MCIC, a Delaware corporation, and Verizon Business, a Delaware limited liability company, are both wholly owned subsidiaries of Verizon, a Delaware entity.

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**SCL-ASG-20200601-00023**

E

MCI International, LLC

Assignment

Grant of Authority

Date of Action: 06/23/2020

**Current Licensee:** MCI International, Inc.**FROM:** MCI International, Inc.**TO:** MCI International, LLC

Application filed for consent to the pro forma assignment of MCI International, Inc.'s (MCII) interest's in certain submarine cable systems to MCI International, LLC. The assignment will result from an internal restructuring scheduled to occur on or about June 30, 2020. Applicants filed an amendment on June 17, 2020, to correct the list of cable licenses affected by this pro forma assignment and the interests of MCII in one of the cables. The cable licenses affected by this pro forma assignment include: (1) Antillas I, SCL-LIC-19951013-00002, (2) Americas I, SCL-LIC-19921110-200002, (3) Americas II, SCL-LIC-19980429-00019, SCL-MOD-20191202-00038, (4) Bahamas II, SCL-LIC-19960329-00128, SCL-MOD-19980303-00004, (5) TAT-14, SCL-LIC-19990303-00004, SCL-MOD-20040301-00011, (6) Columbus III, SCL-LIC-19980527-00007, SCL-MOD-20040304-00012, (7) Taino-Carib, SCL-LIC-19920107-00005, and (8) Pan American, SCL-LIC-19970421-00002, SCL-MOD-20110928-00028. This transaction does not affect the interests held by other licensees in these cable systems.

MCII is wholly owned by Verizon Business Network Services Inc., which is wholly owned by MCI Communications Corporation, which is wholly owned by Verizon Business Global LLC, which is wholly owned by Verizon Communications Inc. (Verizon). According to the applicants, Verizon is planning to implement an internal restructuring plan that includes the elimination of multiple companies in the Verizon ownership chain, as well as the conversion of certain companies from corporations to limited liability companies. As part of this restructuring, (1) MCI International will be converted from a corporation to a limited liability company; (2) MCI Communications Corporation will be merged into Verizon Business Global LLC; and (3) Verizon Business Network Services will be converted from a corporation into a limited liability company. MCI International, LLC will continue to be an indirect wholly owned subsidiary of Verizon.

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**SCL-T/C-20200430-00016**

E

America Europe Connect 2 USA, Inc.

Transfer of Control

Grant of Authority

Date of Action: 06/23/2020

**Current Licensee:** America Europe Connect 2 USA, Inc.**FROM:** Aqua Ventures International FZE**TO:** Aqua Ventures Limited

Notification filed April 30, 2020, of the pro forma transfer of control of America Europe Connect 2 USA Inc. (AEC-2 USA), which is a licensee on the Havfrue cable, SCL-LIC-20180511-00010, from Aqua Ventures International FZE (AVI), to Aqua Ventures Limited (Aqua Ventures), effective March 27, 2020. The Havfrue cable connects the United States, Denmark, Ireland and Norway. This transaction does not affect the interests held by other licensees in the Havfrue cable.

AEC-2 USA, a Delaware corporation, is an indirect wholly owned subsidiary of Aqua Comms Designated Activity Company (Aqua Comms DAC), an Irish company. Pursuant to a share transfer agreement between AVI and Aqua Ventures dated March 27, 2020, AVI, a United Arab Emirates intermediate holding company, agreed to transfer its shareholding in Aqua Comms DAC to Aqua Ventures, a Jersey intermediate holding company. As a result of the transaction, the 2013 Bake Family Trust (the Bake Trust) now holds its interest in Aqua Comms DAC through Aqua Ventures, rather than AVI. AEC-2 USA continues to be ultimately owned and controlled by the Bake Trust, a Jersey company whose economic settlor is Mr. Christopher Paul Bake, a Netherlands citizen.

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Transfer of Control

Grant of Authority

Date of Action: 06/23/2020

**Current Licensee:** America Europe Connect 2 Limited**FROM:** Aqua Ventures International FZE**TO:** Aqua Ventures Limited

Notification filed April 30, 2020, of the pro forma transfer of control of America Europe Connect 2 Limited (AEC-2), which is a licensee on the Havfrue cable, SCL-LIC-20180511-00010, from Aqua Ventures International FZE (AVI), to Aqua Ventures Limited (Aqua Ventures), effective March 27, 2020. The Havfrue cable connects the United States, Denmark, Ireland and Norway. This transaction does not affect the interests held by other licensees in the Havfrue cable.

AEC-2, and Irish limited company, is an indirect wholly owned subsidiary of Aqua Comms Designated Activity Company (Aqua Comms DAC), an Irish company. Pursuant to a share transfer agreement between AVI and Aqua Ventures dated March 27, 2020, AVI, a United Arab Emirates intermediate holding company, agreed to transfer its shareholding in Aqua Comms DAC to Aqua Ventures, a Jersey intermediate holding company. As a result of the transaction, the 2013 Bake Family Trust (the Bake Trust) now holds its interest in Aqua Comms DAC through Aqua Ventures, rather than AVI. AEC-2 continues to be ultimately owned and controlled by the Bake Trust, a Jersey company whose economic settlor is Mr. Christopher Paul Bake, a Netherlands citizen.